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Programme planning

Proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017

Part two: biennial programme plan

Programme 17
Economic development in Europe

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Overall orientation

1. The programme is under the responsibility of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE).

2. The overarching theme of the programme is sustainable development, which will be achieved through the strengthening of the synergies among its eight subprogrammes: (a) environment; (b) transport; (c) statistics; (d) economic cooperation and integration; (e) sustainable energy; (f) trade; (g) forestry and timber; and (h) housing, land management and population.

3. Consistent with the legislative mandates, including Commission decision A (65) of 11 April 2013 on the outcome of the review of the 2005 reform of ECE, the programme will promote sustainable development and regional cooperation and integration through (a) policy dialogue; (b) normative work; and (c) technical cooperation.

4. In particular, ECE will provide a neutral platform for regional policy dialogue on economic, social and environmental issues among its 56 member States. It will support the normative work through the development and implementation of international legal instruments, norms and standards and identification and dissemination of best practices in and outside the region. It will promote technical cooperation with economies in transition, with a view to integrating them into the world economy and achieving sustainable development in the region. The programme will also promote interregional, including South-South and triangular, cooperation.

5. Due consideration will be given to the gender dimension of development, given that women constitute half of the population and are active agents and beneficiaries of sustainable development in the region. Gender equality and the empowerment of women will be integrated in ECE subprogrammes in accordance with the United Nations System-wide Action Plan. In particular, the programme will focus on women in the economy and promote women's entrepreneurship in the region.

6. ECE will also pursue system-wide coherence in its programme delivery to avoid overlap, reduce duplication, multiply effect, increase impact and ensure sustainability of its work in the region. To this end, it will draw upon the work of other United Nations entities and relevant organizations. It will provide leadership to the Regional Coordination Mechanism and contribute to the work of the United Nations Development Group for Europe and Central Asia by supporting the United Nations Development Assistance Framework and One United Nations programmes in the region.

7. Cooperation with other regional commissions will be pursued through joint events and initiatives, joint projects and programmes and information sharing and knowledge management. Coordination will be ensured through regular meetings of the executive secretaries, chiefs of programme planning and focal points, as well as through the Regional Commissions New York Office.

8. The United Nations Special Programme for Economies of Central Asia, jointly implemented by ECE and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), will continue to serve as the major framework for ECE cooperation with other relevant stakeholders in Central Asia.

9. The programme will actively contribute to integrated and coordinated follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in economic, social and environmental fields, including the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, the summit of Heads of State and Government on the post-2015 development agenda, the Third United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, the 20-year review of the Beijing Programme for Action and the comprehensive 10-year review of the Almaty Programme of Action.

10. The programme will also contribute to the Decade of Action for Road Safety (2011-2020), the Decade of Sustainable Energy for All (2014-2024), World Water Day and the International Day of Forests.

11. Within its mandate and depending upon the theme, the programme will contribute to the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly.

12. Pursuant to Commission decision A (65), the Trade and Sustainable Land Management Division was merged with the Economic Cooperation and Integration Division in the Economic Cooperation, Trade and Land Management Division. The new Division is responsible for subprogramme 4 (Economic cooperation and integration), subprogramme 6 (Trade), subprogramme 7 (Forestry and timber) and a Housing and land management component of subprogramme 8. The Population component of subprogramme 8 remains the responsibility of the Statistics Division.

Subprogramme 1
Environment

Objective of the Organization: To improve environmental governance and performance throughout the region for safeguarding the environment and health

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Improved response to environmental challenges by ECE constituencies	(a) Number of new measures taken by ECE constituencies in response to existing and emerging environmental challenges
(b) Strengthened implementation and increased geographical coverage of ECE multilateral environmental agreements	(b) (i) Increased percentage of Contracting Parties reporting on the implementation of ECE multilateral environmental agreements (ii) Increased number of Contracting Parties to the ECE multilateral environmental agreements
(c) Strengthened national capacity for environmental monitoring and assessment systems in the countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, Central Asia and South-Eastern Europe	(c) Increased percentage of implementation of ECE recommendations on environmental monitoring by member States
(d) Improved environmental performance of interested countries	(d) Percentage of environmental performance review recommendations implemented by countries reviewed during a biennium

Strategy

13. The Environment Division is responsible for implementing the subprogramme. Using a country needs-based approach, it will focus on strengthening the capacity of the countries of Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia in environmental policymaking and management, including for the effective implementation of environmental legislation.

14. The subprogramme will promote environmental governance in the region and cross-border cooperation between countries, and it will further strengthen integration of environmental concerns into sectoral policies through the implementation of ECE policy tools, education for sustainable development, transport, health and environment, the ECE multilateral environmental agreements and the sharing of information (e.g., Shared Environmental Information System), experiences and good practices in the ECE region. Cross-sectoral work will also include the promotion of synergies between the ECE legal instruments. The subprogramme will also work with interested non-ECE countries, in particular those interested in joining multilateral environmental agreements that have recently been opened to global accession.

15. The subprogramme will continue to conduct environmental performance reviews, assisting countries in the implementation of the recommendations from their national reviews and monitoring the impact of the recommendations on policy formulation and implementation. It will also strengthen countries' capacity to provide timely and accurate environmental data, thus contributing to improved environmental monitoring and reporting. The subprogramme will further promote the use of the ECE guidelines for environmental monitoring and assessment by member States.

16. Other activities will include the promotion of sustainable development in the region, as well as the implementation of the outcomes of the regional and global summits and conferences on environment and sustainable development, in particular the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and the post-2015 development agenda.

Subprogramme 2
Transport

Objective of the Organization: To promote sustainable transport which is safe, clean and competitive, through the development of freight and personal mobility by inland transport modes, by improving traffic safety, environmental performance, energy efficiency, inland transport security and efficient service provision in the transport sector

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Strengthened legal and regulatory framework for international land (road, rail, inland waterway and intermodal transport) transport, transport infrastructure, border-crossing facilitation, transport of dangerous goods, vehicle construction and other transport-related services	(a) (i) Increased share of legal instruments on transport in force administered by ECE relative to the total number of United Nations legal instruments on transport administered by ECE (ii) Number of new vehicle regulations and amendments

	(iii) Number of international legal instruments amended to reflect the latest revised edition of the United Nations Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods
(b) Greater geographical coverage and more effective implementation of United Nations legal instruments and recommendations on transport administered by ECE	(b) (i) Increased number of Contracting Parties, including from outside the region, to United Nations legal instruments and recommendations on transport administered by ECE
	(ii) Increased number of mechanisms in place for monitoring the implementation of United Nations legal instruments and recommendations administered by ECE
(c) Enhanced capacity in ECE member States, particularly in landlocked developing countries, for the development of the pan-European and transcontinental transport infrastructure and transport facilitation measures	(c) (i) Increased number of Contracting Parties to four key transport infrastructure agreements
	(ii) Increased number of United Nations Member States participating in ECE subregional transport infrastructure projects
(d) Strengthened capacity to implement relevant ECE legal instruments, norms and standards, in particular in the countries of Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia	(d) (i) Number of capacity-building activities on transport
	(ii) Increased number of ECE member States having established road safety improvement targets

Strategy

17. The Transport Division is responsible for implementing the subprogramme. The subprogramme focuses on four broad functional areas:

(a) Further development of legal and regulatory framework for inland transport at international, national and local levels through new instruments and the updating of 58 legal instruments that cover all modes of inland transport, vehicle regulations and the transport of dangerous goods. The subprogramme will actively collaborate with member Governments and other stakeholders, build consensus at relevant administrative committee meetings of conventions and agreements and other intergovernmental meetings on transport, in particular the Economic and Social Council Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System for the Classification and Labelling of Chemicals, the ECE Inland Transport Committee, 17 working parties and other subsidiary bodies;

(b) Broad use and improved implementation capacity of the existing legal and regulatory framework, through intensive efforts to promote new accessions to the United Nations legal instruments administered by ECE and strengthened implementation of monitoring mechanisms. In line with the United Nations Decade of Action for Road Safety, special focus is on United Nations Road Safety Legal

Instruments. The incorporation of certain United Nations legal instruments in the European Union Community acquis will continue to play an important role;

(c) Strengthening of national capacity for the development of pan-European and transcontinental transport infrastructure, including transport and border-crossing facilitation. Emphasis will be placed on regional and subregional cooperation activities. The Trans-European Motorways and the Trans-European Railways projects will build on their master plans and on specific high-value projects. The development of Euro-Asian Transport Links and the unified railway law will be promoted in cooperation with the participating member States, ESCAP, other international organizations and various private sector stakeholders. Strengthening of transport links between Europe and Africa and between Europe and the Middle East, including the Mediterranean region, will be promoted in cooperation with the relevant stakeholders. Transport facilitation will focus on transit and border-crossing facilitation, inter alia through measurement of border-crossing performance and the promotion of electronic communications. The special needs of landlocked transition economies will be addressed through technical assistance and analytical work in compliance with the General Assembly resolutions on the Almaty Programme of Action;

(d) Capacity-building. Special attention will be given to further strengthening the national capacity of countries, assess the environmental performance of their transport sector using the ForFITS (For Future Inland Transport System) tool, as well as the ways in which the transport and logistics sector contribute to national competitiveness.

18. To achieve goals in the above four functional areas, the subprogramme will:

(a) Act as Custodian of legal instruments in transport;

(b) Undertake analytical activities;

(c) Effectively follow up on the transport-related outcome of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and contribute to the post-2015 development agenda;

(d) Strengthen cooperation and partnerships with regional economic organizations, as well as other international organizations relevant for transport;

(e) Work on multisectoral projects, with particular focus on promoting sustainable development of transport, and specifically on joint servicing of the Pan-European Programme on Transport, Health and Environment.

19. The Division will continue to service the ECE Inland Transport Committee and the Economic and Social Council Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals.

Subprogramme 3
Statistics

Objective of the Organization: To improve the quality of official statistics at the national and international levels, and to ensure the coordination of international statistical activities undertaken in the ECE region

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Streamlined international statistical work	(a) (i) Number of international organizations contributing to the statistical work of the Conference of European Statisticians and its subsidiary bodies (ii) Number of statistical areas reviewed in depth by the Bureau of the Conference of European Statisticians
(b) Updated and newly developed standards and recommendations to enhance international comparability of statistics	(b) (i) Number of new or revised international statistical standards and recommendations developed with ECE contribution (ii) Number of statistical areas (according to the ECE Classification of Statistical Activities) to which ECE makes substantive methodological contributions
(c) Improved national capacities to implement international standards and recommendations in official statistics, including on international development goals and gender-sensitive indicators	(c) (i) Number of countries with less developed statistical systems that implement recommendations from global assessments of national statistical systems in their strategies for statistical development (ii) Percentage of national experts that express satisfaction with the relevance and quality of ECE advisory services, training courses and workshops
(d) Improved availability and increased use of statistics from the ECE database, in particular related to international development goals, gender equality, key socioeconomic indicators and sustainable development in support of evidence-based policymaking in ECE member States	(d) (i) Number of downloads of statistical data from the ECE statistical database (ii) Percentage of users that express satisfaction with the quality, coverage and timeliness of data contained in the ECE statistical database

Strategy

20. The responsibility for the subprogramme is vested in the Statistical Division. The subprogramme seeks to improve the quality, coverage and timeliness of official statistics for evidence-based economic, social and environmental policymaking, and for assessing progress towards international development goals and sustainable development.

21. Coordinating international statistical activities in the region will remain a central component. Cooperation with the statistical services of other United Nations entities and international organizations will continue through joint meetings and working groups to develop standards and recommendations and identify good practices.

22. The subprogramme will work on priorities identified by the ECE member States, with a focus on measuring sustainable development, post-2015 development agenda; globalization; population, poverty and inequality; promoting modernization of statistical production, including the use of geospatial information; and capacity-building, taking into account recent methodological and technological development in official statistics. Work will be undertaken in close cooperation with experts from ECE member States and international organizations through expert groups performing specific tasks within a set time frame and resulting in the development of methodological and practical guidelines, including training materials.

23. The subprogramme will provide support and guidance to ECE member States, particularly those with less developed statistical systems regarding existing United Nations standards and best practices and their implementation at the national level, promote the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics and provide advice on institutional frameworks of official statistics, by conducting global assessments of national statistical systems. The advisory work will be demand-driven, focusing on areas where United Nations standards and recommendations exist, such as population censuses, international development goals, national accounts, prices, business statistics, gender-disaggregated statistics, environmental indicators and modernizing statistical production.

24. The subprogramme will collect and disseminate statistical information, including on progress towards the achievement of international development goals and gender equality, which will be accessible to the public on the Internet. A quality framework will ensure the relevance, timeliness and user-friendliness of dissemination.

Subprogramme 4
Economic cooperation and integration

Objective of the Organization: To promote a policy, financial and regulatory environment conducive to the sustained economic growth, innovative development and greater competitiveness of economies in the ECE region

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Improved dialogue on promoting a policy, financial and regulatory environment conducive to sustained economic growth, innovative development and greater competitiveness	(a) Number of new policy recommendations resulting from the exchange of national experiences and best practices among member States
(b) Enhanced implementation of ECE recommendations on promoting a policy, financial and regulatory environment conducive to sustained economic growth, innovative development and greater competitiveness	(b) Number of new measures taken by member States to implement ECE recommendations

(c) Strengthened national capacity of countries in the region to promote good practices and implement ECE recommendations on a policy, financial and regulatory environment conducive to sustained economic growth, innovative development and greater competitiveness	(c) Number of capacity-building events organized for countries in the region

Strategy

25. The Economic Cooperation, Trade, and Land Management Division is responsible for implementing the subprogramme. The subprogramme will contribute to the follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and to the post-2015 development agenda by assisting ECE member States, particularly those with economies in transition, to create an enabling environment for innovation and competitiveness at the national and regional levels.

26. The strategy for achieving this objective rests on three pillars: (a) a regional dialogue aimed at identifying relevant policy issues and generating policy recommendations; (b) implementation of policy recommendations and best practices; and (c) technical cooperation.

27. The subprogramme focuses on two complementary areas: (a) innovation and competitiveness policies; and (b) public-private partnerships for infrastructure development. The work on innovation and competitiveness policies will support sustainable economic growth, innovative development and competitiveness by promoting best practices in national innovation systems, innovation financing and the creation of a supportive business climate. The work on public-private partnerships will support the same objective by promoting innovative ways of financing, building and managing critical infrastructure for innovation and international competitiveness.

28. Policy dialogues will draw on the knowledge of national and international experts. Implementation will be supported through wide dissemination of the resulting good practices and policy recommendations. Policy advisory services and capacity-building assistance will be based on this normative work.

29. The subprogramme will draw upon the work of other relevant organizations and institutions operating in this field. It will strengthen partnerships with United Nations agencies, funds and programmes and national public-private partnership units in the region.

30. The work of the subprogramme will be supported by two teams of specialists (on innovation and competitiveness policies and on public-private partnership), involving government representatives and other stakeholders, and a broader network of experts.

31. The subprogramme will contribute to the work of the Project Working Group on Knowledge-based Development under the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia.

Subprogramme 5
Sustainable energy

Objective of the Organization: To improve access to affordable and clean energy for all and to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and the carbon footprint of the energy sector in the region

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Improved policy dialogue and cooperation among all stakeholders on sustainable energy issues, in particular energy efficiency, cleaner electricity production from fossil fuels, renewable energy, coal mine methane, mineral resource classification, natural gas and energy security	(a) (i) Increased number of recommendations on sustainable energy issues agreed by ECE intergovernmental bodies (ii) Increased number of measures on affordable and clean energy for all taken by member States
(b) Increased awareness of the role of energy efficiency and renewable energy in achieving sustainable energy development	(b) (i) Increased number of best practices on energy efficiency identified and disseminated (ii) Increased number of best practices on renewable energy identified and disseminated
(c) Strengthened implementation of ECE recommendations/guidelines, best practices and other normative instruments for sustainable energy development	(c) (i) Increased number of countries to apply the United Nations Framework Classification for Fossil Energy and Mineral Reserves and Resources (ii) Increased number of activities to disseminate coal mine methane best practices globally

Strategy

32. The Sustainable Energy Division is responsible for implementing the subprogramme. The subprogramme will promote international policy dialogue and cooperation among Governments, energy industries and other stakeholders. This work will contribute to fostering sustainable energy development in States Members of the United Nations, improving their access to affordable and clean energy for all within the Sustainable Energy for All initiative of the Secretary-General and reducing greenhouse gas emissions and the carbon footprint of the energy sector. The subprogramme will focus on issues related to energy security, energy efficiency, cleaner electricity production from fossil fuels, renewable energy, coal mine methane, United Nations Framework Classification related to energy and mineral reserves and resources and natural gas. The subprogramme will continue its energy security dialogue and contribute to the post-2015 development agenda.

33. The work of the subprogramme will strengthen regional cooperation in energy efficiency, promote activities that significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions and provide a forum for multi-stakeholder dialogue on ways to promote sustainable and clean production, distribution and consumption of gas. The subprogramme will

implement activities to increase the uptake of renewable energy to improve energy access in the ECE region. It will promote the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from coal mines through recovery and use of methane in order to reduce the risks of explosions. The subprogramme will draw on the work of other relevant organizations and institutions. It will work in cooperation with other regional commissions and United Nations agencies, funds and programmes and other organizations.

34. The subprogramme will contribute to the development, extension and implementation of ECE policy recommendations, norms, standards, guidelines and tools on energy-related issues. It will assist member States, at their request, through training programmes, advisory services and technical cooperation projects.

Subprogramme 6
Trade

Objective of the Organization: To strengthen trade facilitation and trade-related economic cooperation in the ECE region and beyond

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Increased consensus on best practices and strengthened implementation of ECE recommendations, norms, standards, guidelines and tools for trade facilitation and electronic business	(a) (i) Number of new and/or revised recommendations, norms, standards and tools for trade facilitation and electronic business adopted by the ECE (ii) Number of page views of ECE key trade facilitation and electronic business recommendations, norms, standards, guidelines and tools, as a proxy for their use
(b) Increased consensus on best practices and strengthened implementation of ECE recommendations, norms, standards, guidelines and tools for regulatory cooperation	(b) Number of new and/or revised recommendations and tools for regulatory cooperation adopted by the ECE
(c) Increased consensus on best practices and strengthened implementation of ECE recommendations, norms, standards, guidelines and tools for agricultural quality standards	(c) (i) Number of new and/or revised recommendations and standards on agricultural produce adopted by the ECE (ii) Number of implementations of existing, new or revised ECE agricultural quality standards by member States (iii) Number of opened PDF files with ECE recommendations and standards on agricultural produce, as a proxy for their use

(d) Enhanced national capacity of member States for the implementation of ECE recommendations, norms, standards, guidelines and tools	(d) (i) Number of new national actions to implement ECE recommendations, norms, standards, guidelines and tools (ii) Number of national trade needs assessments with recommendations accepted by beneficiary countries

Strategy

35. The Economic Cooperation, Trade, and Land Management Division is responsible for implementing the subprogramme. The subprogramme contributes to the establishment of an open, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory trading system, especially in the ECE less economically developed and landlocked developing countries. It takes into account the international recognition of trade as a key vehicle for achieving sustained economic growth, the elimination of poverty and greater regional integration by United Nations summits and conferences on sustainable development and the post-2015 development agenda.

36. The subprogramme will work to achieve its objective and expected accomplishments by supporting the reduction of barriers to trade caused by differences in trade procedures, standards and documents and divergent regulatory approaches and standards for manufactured and agricultural products that hamper market access. More specifically, the subprogramme will promote:

(a) Simple, transparent and effective processes for global commerce through development and maintenance of international trade facilitation instruments to support international supply chains and the integration of countries into the global economy. These instruments include global standards and best practices for moving from paper-based to automated electronic processes and for harmonizing and simplifying business practices in international trade;

(b) A predictable, transparent and harmonized regulatory environment by strengthening the convergence of regulations and by promoting international standards and best practices in regulatory cooperation, conformity assessment, market surveillance and risk management in regulatory systems;

(c) Trade in agricultural produce through the development of up-to-date agricultural quality standards used by Governments and the private sector and through explanatory materials.

37. The subprogramme will support Governments, especially the region's less economically developed and landlocked developing countries, in their national and regional adaptation and implementation of ECE trade-related standards and recommendations in national and regional trade facilitation strategies, trade policy and regulatory regimes.

38. The subprogramme will work through partnerships with national, regional and international experts and stakeholders. These include Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations as well as the private sector, with a particular emphasis on obtaining high-level guidance.

Subprogramme 7
Forestry and timber

Objective of the Organization: To strengthen sustainable management of forests in the ECE region

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Improved monitoring and assessment of the forest sector, to support sustainable forest management	(a) (i) Percentage of ECE member States able to provide satisfactory data on qualitative indicators of sustainable forest management (ii) Percentage of ECE member States able to provide satisfactory data on quantitative indicators of sustainable forest management (iii) Percentage of ECE member States able to provide satisfactory responses to the ECE/FAO/International Tropical Timber Organization/Eurostat joint forest sector questionnaire
(b) Increased national capacity of countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, Central Asia and South-East Europe in sustainable forest management	(b) Increased number of capacity-building activities on sustainable forest management

Strategy

39. The responsibility for the subprogramme is vested in the Economic Cooperation, Trade, and Land Management Division. The subprogramme develops and applies analytical and monitoring tools to support evidence-based policymaking on sustainable forest management. The subprogramme collects, validates and disseminates information and the results of research and analysis; facilitates the exchange of national experience and best practices and monitors progress on key forest-sector indicators. The subprogramme provides a platform for policy dialogue on related issues while taking into account a rapidly changing policy environment, notably in climate change and bioenergy. Implementation of the Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy will contribute to promoting the role of the forest sector in a green economy and in mitigation and adaptation to climate change.

40. The subprogramme promotes the sustainable management of forests through the sound and legal use of forest products (including raw material, energy, and forest ecosystem services), based on appropriate policies and institutions. Priorities for 2016-2017 will be guided primarily by the outcomes of the joint session of the ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry and the FAO European Forestry Commission (Metsä 2013). The subprogramme supports the development of cross-sectoral and cross-institutional policies promoting sustainable forest management, and enhanced forest governance in line with the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development. Furthermore, the subprogramme contributes to the post-2015 development agenda by supporting sustainable

management of forests, soils and grasslands and by monitoring the status of forests and their effect on climate change mitigation.

41. As part of the implementation strategy of the subprogramme, ECE carries out its work in partnership with FAO, the European Forest Institute, Forest Europe and other relevant regional organizations. It provides regular input to the United Nations Forum on Forests and the FAO Committee on Forestry.

42. To support forest management, including the provision of forest services and the use of wood and forest products which are ecologically, economically and socially sustainable, the subprogramme: (a) encourages all relevant stakeholders to participate in and implement the activities of the subprogramme; and (b) takes a cross-sectoral approach to ensure that the strategy is well integrated into the policy framework of other sectors. Achieving sustainable forest management is primarily a national responsibility, so the subprogramme and its partners support national-level efforts by developing and disseminating concepts and information, sharing experiences and capacity-building and by defining measurement standards and policy tools.

Subprogramme 8
Housing, land management and population

Objective of the Organization: To improve the housing, urban and land governance, and to promote the evidence-based formulation and implementation of sustainable population and social cohesion policies in the region

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Improved capacity for policy formulation and implementation in housing, urban planning and land administration	(a) Increased number of countries which participate in ECE results-oriented assessment of national housing policies and land administration systems
(b) Strengthened implementation of ECE guidelines on housing, urban planning and land management	(b) Increased number of countries which apply ECE guidelines on housing, urban planning and land management in their national policies
(c) Enhanced national formulation and implementation of evidence-based policies on population ageing, intergenerational and gender relations	(c) Increased number of countries that have adjusted their national policies or introduced new measures for implementing the ECE Regional Implementation Strategy for the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002

Strategy

43. The subprogramme consists of two components: (a) housing and land management, in the Economic Cooperation, Trade, and Land Management Division; and (b) population, in the Statistics Division.

44. The housing and land management component works to improve housing, real estate markets, urban development and land administration and management. It

promotes the implementation of the Strategy for Sustainable Housing and Land Management in the ECE region for the period 2014-2020 (ECE/HBP/2013/3).

45. To promote sustainable housing and real estate markets, the subprogramme will cooperate with member States to improve housing energy efficiency and develop real estate markets which contribute to economic growth.

46. The subprogramme will support Governments in preparing national action plans on energy efficiency in the residential sector, as recommended in the Action Plan for Energy-Efficient Housing in the ECE region (ECE/HBP/164).

47. The subprogramme will promote an integrated approach to sustainable urban development, i.e., to planning and building sustainable cities and urban settlements. Activities under this area of work will focus on capacity-building for the spatial planning of compact, smart, efficient and inclusive cities and low-carbon, disaster-resilient urban development.

48. To assist member states to improve land administration and land management, the subprogramme will address land registration, e-governance, land tenure, spatial information and cadastres. An emphasis will be placed on the challenge of informal settlements and the organizational structure of land registries and cadastres.

49. Country profiles on housing and land management which assess the housing and land sectors of a country will be conducted upon the request of member States. They will be coordinated by the secretariat and drafted by independent international and national experts. The Committee on Housing and Land Management will monitor and provide policy guidance on the implementation of the country profile recommendations.

50. The subprogramme will contribute to the post-2015 development agenda in energy, environmental protection and other topics related to housing, urban planning, land management and population dynamics.

51. The population component of the subprogramme will work to ensure the implementation of the ECE Regional Strategy for the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing. It will address the challenges of demographic change and better use of the potential of older persons. It will provide a platform for intergovernmental policy debate on matters relating to ageing and will facilitate communication with a wider network of experts and non-governmental organizations. It will support evidence-based policymaking and monitoring of the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action by coordinating data collection and policy-oriented research on ageing and intergenerational and gender relations.

52. The population component will also support the development of national capacities for policy formulation by providing policy advice on national action plans on ageing as well as providing capacity-building.

53. The ECE Executive Committee discussed and approved the Strategic Framework for programme 17, Economic development in Europe, for the period 2016-2017 at its 65th meeting, on 4 December 2013. It took into account the latest legislative mandates from the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council and the outcome of the review of the 2005 reform of the ECE adopted at its sixty-fifth session, held at Geneva from 9 to 11 April 2013. The sixty-sixth session of the Commission will take place in 2015.

Legislative mandates

Overall ECE legislative mandates

General Assembly resolutions

55/2	United Nations Millennium Declaration
57/144	Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit
57/253	World Summit on Sustainable Development
57/270 B	Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields
60/248	Special subjects relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007
65/185	Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly
68/222	Development cooperation with middle-income countries
66/288	The future we want
67/10	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Eurasian Economic Community
67/13	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization
67/14	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization
67/15	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization
67/83	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe
67/148	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly
68/204	Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development
68/212	Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind
68/225	Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation

67/226	Quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
68/230	South-South cooperation
67/264	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation
67/290	Format and organizational aspects of the high-level political forum on sustainable development
68/6	Outcome document of the Special Event to follow up on efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2006/38	Workplan on reform of the Economic Commission for Europe and revised terms of reference of the Commission
2012/30	Role of the Economic and Social Council in the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits, in the light of relevant General Assembly resolutions, including resolution 61/16
2013/1	Outcome of the review of the 2005 Reform of the Economic Commission for Europe
2013/16	Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

Economic and Social Council decision

2011/247	Report of the Commission on Population and Development on its forty-fourth session and provisional agenda and documentation for its forty-fifth session

Economic Commission for Europe decisions

ECE/AC.21/ 2002/8	Declaration on the establishment of a Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme (THE PEP) adopted at the Second High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment
A (64)	The Work of the Economic Commission for Europe

Legislative mandates specific to ECE subprogrammes

Subprogramme 1: Environment

General Assembly resolutions

47/193	Observance of World Day for Water
58/217	International Decade for Action, "Water for Life", 2005-2015
58/219	United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development, 2005-2014

64/292	The human right to water and sanitation
68/157	The human right to safe drinking water and sanitation
67/291	Sanitation for All

Economic and Social Council resolution

2009/28	The role of the United Nations system in implementing the ministerial declaration on the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to sustainable development adopted at the high-level segment of the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council in 2008

Economic Commission for Europe decisions

CEP/AC.13/2005/3/Rev.1	ECE Strategy for Education on Sustainable Development adopted by the High-Level meeting of Environment and Education Ministries, 2005
ECE/BELGRADE.CONF/2007/4/Add.1	Statement on Education for Sustainable Development by the Ministers of Education and of the Environment of the UNECE region adopted at the Sixth "Environment for Europe" Ministerial Conference, 2007
ECE/BELGRADE.CONF/2007/8	Ministerial Declaration "Building Bridges to the Future", 2007
ECE/AC.21/2009/2	Report of the High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment on its third session, 2009
ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/2/Add.1	Ministerial Declaration "Save water, grow green!", 2011

Recent decisions of the Governing Bodies of the Multilateral Environmental Agreements of the Economic Commission for Europe

ECE/EB.AIR/113 and Add.1	Report of the Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution on its thirty-first session
ECE/MP.PRTR/2010/2 and Add.1	Report of the first session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers
ECE/MP.PP/2011/2 and addenda	Report of the fourth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention
ECE/MP.EIA/15	Report of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context on its fifth session
ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2	Report of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment on its first session

ECE/CP.TEIA/24	Report of the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents
ECE/MP.WAT/37 and addenda	Report of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes on its sixth session
ECE/MP.WH/4 and addenda	Report of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health on its second session

Subprogramme 2: Transport

General Assembly resolutions

58/9	Global road safety crisis
58/201	Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries
63/2	Outcome document of the midterm review of the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries
67/13	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization
64/255	Improving global road safety
66/260	Improving global road safety

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1999/65	Reconfiguration of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods into a Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals
2011/25	Work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals
2013/7	Europe-Africa fixed link through the Strait of Gibraltar
2013/25	Work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals

Economic Commission for Europe decision

ECE/AC.21/2009/2	Report of the High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment on its third session

Subprogramme 3: Statistics

General Assembly resolutions

65/170	International migration and development
66/127	Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing
66/130	Women and political participation
67/144	Intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women
68/211	International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
67/214	Harmony with Nature
68/216	Harmony with Nature
67/219	International migration and development
67/230	The role of the United Nations in promoting a new global human order

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1993/5	1993 System of National Accounts
2005/13	2010 World Population and Housing Census Programme
2006/6	Strengthening statistical capacity
2011/5	The role of the United Nations system in implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to gender equality and the empowerment of women
2012/2	The role of the United Nations system in implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to education
2013/21	Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics
2013/28	Mainstreaming disability in the development agenda: towards 2015 and beyond
2013/37	Improving the quality and availability of statistics on crime and criminal justice for policy development

Economic Commission for Europe decision

C (47)	The Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics in the Region of the Economic Commission for Europe

United Nations Statistical Commission decisions

38/111	Statistical capacity-building
39/112	Common open standards for the exchange and sharing of data and metadata
40/105	National accounts
40/110	Gender statistics

41/104	Statistics of international trade in services
41/112	Development indicators
42/102	Programme review: gender statistics
42/104	Environmental-economic accounting
42/107	Short-term economic indicators
42/111	Implementation of the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics
43/101	Programme review: population and housing censuses
43/110	National quality assurance frameworks
43/115	Regional statistical development in Europe
44/101	Programme review: developing a statistical-spatial framework in national statistical systems
44/103	National accounts
44/105	Environment statistics
44/111	Health statistics

Subprogramme 4: Economic cooperation and integration

General Assembly resolutions

68/219	Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence
66/223	Towards global partnerships
68/234	Towards global partnerships: a principle-based approach to enhanced cooperation between the United Nations and all relevant partners
67/7	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Central European Initiative
67/10	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Eurasian Economic Community
68/198	Information and communications technologies for development
67/225	Industrial development cooperation

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2013/10	Science, technology and innovation for development
2013/44	Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development

Subprogramme 5: Sustainable energy

General Assembly resolutions

60/248	Special subjects relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007

Economic and Social Council resolution

2006/38	Workplan on reform of the Economic Commission for Europe and revised terms of reference of the Commission

Economic Commission for Europe decision

E/ECE/1434/ Rev.1	Work Plan on ECE reform

Subprogramme 6: Trade

General Assembly resolutions

65/185	Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly
68/198	Information and communications technologies for development
68/199	International trade and development
67/264	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference

Economic and Social Council resolution

1991/76	Promotion of interregional cooperation in the area of international trade facilitation

Economic and Social Council decision

1997/225	Economic Commission for Europe Recommendation 25, entitled "Use of the UN/EDIFACT Standard"

Subprogramme 7: Forestry and timber

General Assembly resolutions

62/98	Non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests
67/200	International Day of Forests

Economic and Social Council resolution

2007/40 Non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests

Economic and Social Council decision

2013/240 Report of the United Nations Forum on Forests on its tenth session and provisional agenda for its eleventh session

Subprogramme 8: Housing, land management and population

General Assembly resolutions

65/234 Follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014

67/139 Towards a comprehensive and integral international legal instrument to promote and protect the rights and dignity of older persons

67/143 Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing

68/134 Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing

68/239 Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2010/14 Future implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002

2013/29 Second review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002

Economic and Social Council decision

2012/232 Special session of the General Assembly on follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014

United Nations Commission on Population and Development resolutions

2004/2 Follow-up to the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

2009/1 The contribution of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development to the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals

United Nations Commission for Social Development resolution

47/3 (2009) First review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002

Economic Commission for Europe decisions

ECE/AC.23/2002/2/Rev.6	Regional Implementation Strategy for the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002
ECE/AC.30/2007/6	León Ministerial Declaration "A Society for all Ages: Challenges and Opportunities"
ECE/AC.30/2012/3	Ministerial Declaration "Ensuring a society for all ages: Promoting quality of life and active ageing", 2012
ECE/HBP/2013/3	Strategy for Sustainable Housing and Land Management in the ECE region for the period 2014-2020